

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 11, 14 and 15 have been amended.

Applicant believes that this response addresses the Examiner's rejection and that any changes do not introduce new matter into the specification, limit the scope of the claims or result in any prosecution history estoppel.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Easter (5,530,749) and Elgamal (5,657,390). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejection. In particular, both Easter and Elgamal, alone or in communication, fail to teach or suggest "receiving a message that includes an encrypted hardware configuration code for configuring hardware." Hardware can thus not be changed at regular intervals or even every transaction as in embodiments of the present invention. Rather, Easter just relies on comparing a key code to a secure code on the computer chip. An encrypted hardware code is not received and then decrypted. Additionally, the Examiner noted in his office action that "Both Easter and Elgamal, alone or in communication, fail to teach or disclose receiving a message that includes an encrypted hardware configuration code for configuring the hardware. Hardware can thus not be changed at regular intervals or even every transaction as in embodiments of the present application." (Office Action, mailed May 4, 2005, page 3)

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that all of the claims pending in this patent application are in condition for allowance.

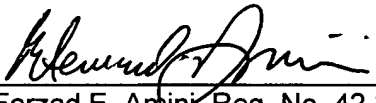
The required fee for a one month extension of time is enclosed. No additional fees are required for additional claims. Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account #02-2666.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (323) 654-8218. Reconsideration of this patent application and early allowance of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN LLP

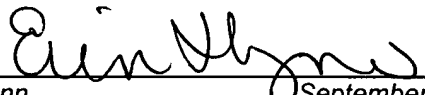
Dated: September 6, 2005

By 
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on September 6, 2005.


Erin Flynn September 6, 2005